



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 27, 2015

CONTACT

Elizabeth Guyton

elizabeth.guyton@state.ma.us

Governor Baker To Lift Travel Ban At Midnight

Governor Plans to Repeal Travel Ban, Provides Updates on Blizzard

FRAMINGHAM - Governor Charlie Baker tonight held a press conference from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and announced his plans to lift the travel ban, resume MBTA services and directed only emergency state employees to return to work tomorrow as the Commonwealth recovers from the full force of the blizzard. The state of emergency order is still in effect.

"The snow will likely continue into the evening, leaving a massive amount of work ahead for Boston and many communities across the Commonwealth," **said Governor Baker.** "While the travel ban will no longer be in effect at midnight tonight, I urge the people of Massachusetts to stay off the roads unless they must travel. It is critical we all work together and use good judgment tonight and throughout tomorrow as road crews work to clean up from this historic blizzard. For those of you that must return to work tomorrow, please be patient and allow plenty of time for your morning commute as we expect the MBTA to experience significant delays."

Governor Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito continue to stay in close contact with officials in cities, towns, and neighboring states, including Mayor Marty Walsh and Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo.

Repeal of Statewide Travel Ban

Effective midnight, the statewide travel ban will be repealed in all counties. Motorists, especially those in the City of Boston and Eastern counties, are asked to use caution and respect efforts still underway by the Mass DOT. Parking

bans are still in effect in Boston and other communities.

MBTA Services

All MBTA services, including the T, transit, buses and commuter lines, are set to resume operations as normally scheduled for Wednesday (T opens at 5:15 AM). Commuters are cautioned that due to heavy snowfall and high winds, it will likely be a slow start with delays expected for the morning commute. Throughout the day, services will improve.

State Offices

Only emergency state employees are directed to return to work in state offices tomorrow. All non-emergency employees in our state offices are asked to stay home while the cleanup efforts continue throughout the Commonwealth.

###